



WHSA Events

Archives

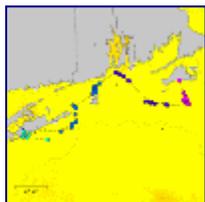
Two Sea Turtles Released off Martha's Vineyard - Sept 30, 2005

2005 turtle release fact sheet

2005 turtle rehabilitation in the WHSA

Turtles Released; Kiwi Headed South

The two sea turtles released September 30 from a beach on Martha's Vineyard are being tracked via satellite tags glued to the backs of their shells. The Kemp's ridley -- nicknamed Kiwi -- promptly headed south, and within four days had traveled 99 miles and was in Rhode Island's Block Island Sound.



You can follow the course of Kiwi and Quiddick, a green sea turtle, here: <http://www.seaturtle.org/tracking/>

(Go to ID 98)



The turtles were given a last physical examination before they were returned to the wild. Woods Hole Science Aquarium veterinarian Dr. Bridget Dunnigan weighed Kiwi, who tipped the scales at 31 pounds, nearly twice what the animal weighed when it stranded on a Cape Cod beach in November, 2004.





The turtles were fitted with satellite tags that will give biologists information about the turtles' movements over the next 12-18 months.



Kiwi (right) hit the surf first, and Quiddick (left) followed within minutes.



The turtle rehabilitation and release was a joint project involving staff from the Woods Hole Science Aquarium and the New England Aquarium. The turtles are being released here by Robert Cooper, a biologist, and Connie Merigo, supervisor of the Rescue & Rehabilitation Program at the NEA.



Dr. Bridget Dunnigan checks to see that a tag under the skin of a Kemp's ridley is readable with a portable scanner. The turtle was also fitted with flipper tags and a satellite tag that will give information about where the animal travels after its release on a beach on the south side of Martha's Vineyard.



Biologist Sarah Bean holds a green turtle that is being prepared for release off Martha's Vineyard. Bean works at the New England Aquarium, where the turtle received critical care after stranding in November 2004. The turtle was transferred in February 2005 to the WHSA for rehabilitation.

Aquarium Main Page

Great White Shark Artwork © Donald - 1st grade

476 visits (1 today, 5 this week, 5 this month, 5 this year)

NOAA Fisheries - Northeast Fisheries Science Center

[Privacy Policy](#) | [Search](#) | www.nefsc.noaa.gov